

# CHATEAU Bellegrave 2017

## AOC Pauillac

Château Bellegrave is located in Pauillac in the Northern part of Bordeaux. It is surrounded by prestigious neighbors such as Chateau Latour, Pichon-Longueville and Lynch Bages. It was formerly the property of M. Armand Roux before it was purchased by his business partner, M. H. Van-Der-Voort in 1901. It was in 1997 that J.P. Meffre, already owners of Chateau du Glana and Lalande in Saint-Julien, purchased the estate. It is currently managed by his grandsons, Julien and Ludovic Meffre. The vineyard is 8.30 ha in size, which is relatively small. The soil is mainly composed of Garonne Gravels. They apply small yields and all of the grapes are hand-harvested. The wine is fermented in temperature-controlled vats and aged around 12 months in 45% New French Oak. Only 2,000 cases produced annually. This is one of the handful of non-classified Pauillac that is still family-owned, which makes it an incredible value to the consumer. Chateau Bellegrave is producing an exceptional elegant and refined wine, that is still available at affordable prices. It is an incredible discovery.

**2017 Vintage:** After a relatively dry winter, the spring was very beautiful and the budburst particularly early. The flowering took place in good conditions.

Unfortunately, at the end of April, the Bordeaux region experienced a devastating spring frost, the most severe since 1991. However, our terroirs were totally spared, which allowed the vines to continue their vegetative cycle and the ripening of the grapes without any problems.

The strong thermal amplitudes between day and night, at the end of the season, favored a good color migration.

### ~ Viticulture ~

- 8.75 hectares of vines.
- Garonne Gravel.
- 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot and 7% Cabernet Franc planted.
- Planted density of 8,333 vines per hectare.
- Average age of the vines is 25 years.
- Manual dede-budding, leaf removal and thinning.
- Manual harvesting.
- Plot management.
- The technical efforts and the numerous cares brought to the vineyard, associated with an exceptional soil, allow an optimal maturity.
- Harvest from September 15th to September 29th.



Julien & Ludovic Meffre, Owners



### ~ Winemaking ~

- **Blend: 62% Cabernet Sauvignon and 38% Merlot.**
- 2 sortings.
- Yield: 54hl per hectare.
- Cold pre-fermentation maceration (24-48 hours).
- Fermentation by plot and varietal in traditional concrete and thermoregulated stainless steel vats.
- Total vatting period of 3 weeks, followed by malolactic fermentation.
- Aged 12 months in French oak barrels, of which 40% are new.
- 32,000 bottles produced.

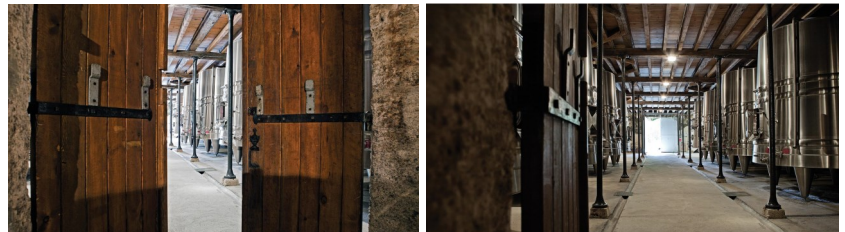


### ~Tasting Notes~

*This wine is very rich and colored, well balanced with a lot of freshness in the nose and mouth.*

### ~Pairing~

With a charcuterie board, with red meat or game, with cheese.



### 92 Points.

The vineyard of Bellegrave in the southern part of Pauillac has produced a softly textured wine in this lighter vintage. With hints of maturity and black-currant fruits that have mellowed well, the wine is almost ready to drink. Just wait until 2022.



**91 Points.** Aromas of currants and raspberries with burnt orange, too. Medium body, firm and tany tannins and a juicy finish. Fresh and tight. Drink after 2021.

